

Rationale for a Short-Term Program

The Arizona School for the Blind is opening up opportunities to share the specialized knowledge and skills of our site-based staff with students with visual impairments and blindness being served in their local schools. We know that there are many visually impaired and blind students who are successfully accessing the general education curriculum in their local school districts. These academic students must meet curricular demands on a daily basis. This leaves a limited amount of time for the student to access and acquire the disability-specific skills needed to compete as academic students on an equal level as their non-disabled peers. Through our Short-Term Programs we can help students build their disability-specific skills and take them to the next level.



Braille Notetaker + GPS

Arizona School for the Blind

Short-Term Programming

Districts may choose to send students for either one week or two weeks at a time. Applications need to be received and processed at least one month prior to enrollment.



Arizona School for the Blind

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**Arizona School
for the Blind**

SHORT-TERM PROGRAMS

**One or two-week courses
providing tools to promote
greater achievement in
the public school setting
and beyond**



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Program Offerings for Academic Students: How it Works



Select a program that
meets your needs

Students who are working on or close to grade level are eligible to participate in the Arizona School for the Blind's Short-Term Programs. Currently, these programs are intended for Upper Elementary through High School students. Parents and

teachers who have an interest in a student participating in one of ASB's Short-Term Programs should begin the process at the local school district. Referrals to the programs must be made by the Special Education Representative for the school district.

The Short-Term Programs will offer detailed, specific curriculum at an accelerated pace designed to provide the student instruction in specific skills with only a brief time away from their school program. Districts can choose either one or two-week placements at any time during ASB's school year. The programs are intended to address very specific skill sets to support and enhance inclusion in the public school program.

Participation in the Short-Term Program is not a change of placement. Students should not be counted as absent from their local schools. School districts

will be charged a fee equivalent to the current state ADM rate for days the student participates in the Short-Term Programs. School districts will also be responsible for transportation to and from the ASDB campus. Homework and assignments can and will be incorporated into this instruction. This makes learning meaningful and application to future school projects and homework more likely. Teachers in the Short-Term Programs will work closely with the student's Teacher of the Visually Impaired, to make sure academic work is covered.

Prior to entrance in a Short-Term Program, input will be sought from parents/guardians and teachers, utilizing various sources including formal and informal assessment and questionnaires. This will allow the course offerings to be individualized to the specific needs of the student. Applications need to be received and processed at least one month prior to enrollment.

Program Offerings

Orientation and Mobility in an Urban Setting

This course will cover all aspects of travel in an urban setting including, but not limited to: Bus travel, downtown crossings at complex intersections, university campus, use of GPS, telescopic aids.



Access to Academic Skills – Adaptive Technology

Technology tools and skills: computer concepts and

terminology, braille notetakers, scan/read software, screen readers, work processing, editing, printing, embossing, file management, accessing the Internet, voice access programs.

Access to Academic Skills – Literacy

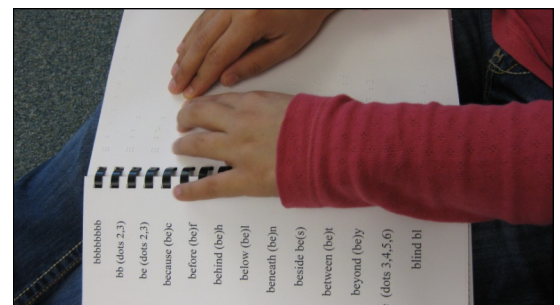
Adaptive tools and skills for reading: Braille and its value, screen readers, downloading eBooks, scan/read software.

Adaptive tools and skills for writing:

No tech and low tech writing adaptations including slate/stylus, writing utensils and surfaces, writing position, Windows keyboard commands for mouse-free computer access, braille notetakers, abacus, creating print documents from braille work.

Access to Academic Skills – Braille

Literary braille, Nemeth, computer braille, slate and stylus, braille notetakers, refreshable braille with a computer.



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